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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Docket No. 3043.FDI

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: BILLMERS ET, AL.

Serial No.: 10/646,429

Filed: August 22, 2003

For: STARCHES FOR REDUCED FAT IN FRIED FOODS

SYSTEMS

Group Art Unit: 1755

Examiner: Unknown

STATUS LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The above case was filed on August 22, 2003. Applicants respectfully request information as to when the first office action should be expected.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen G. Kaiser, Reg. No. 33,506

Attorney for Applicant Tel. 908-575-6152

National Starch and Chemical Company P.O. Box 6500 Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807-0500

July 13, 2006